

The Shepherd.

Programme of the Fourth Annual Convention of the Missouri Wool Growers' Association, at Kansas City, Mo.

EVENING SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2D, 7 P.M.
1. Address of Welcome on behalf of the City—Jas. Gibson, Mayor.

2. Address of Welcome on behalf of stockmen—A. B. Matthews.

3. Response to both—Gov. Norman J. Colman.

4. Reading of Minutes.

5. Enrolling New Members.

6. Secretary's Report.

7. Treasurer's Report.

8. President's Address.

9. Election of Officers.

10. Miscellaneous Business—Committees appointed, etc.

THURSDAY, APRIL 3.

9:00 A. M., to 1:00 p.m. Public Shearing.

1:00 P.M., to 5:00 P.M. Public Shearing continued.

NIGHT SESSION.

7:00 P.M. Report of Shearing. Miscellaneous Business.

8:30 P.M. Address, "The Merino and its Grades as Wool and Mutton Sheep," Samuel Jewett.

9:00 P.M. Discussion.

Deck Can Essential to Sheep Raising in the Missouri Valley"—Alfred D. Simons, Commercial Editor *Livestock Indicator*.

FRIDAY, APRIL 4.

9:00 A. M. Address, "To Prepare Wool for Market"—A. J. Child.

9:30 A. M. Discussion, "Market and Grades that bring best prices"—Free to all, five minutes to each speaker.

10:00 A. M. Address, "Effect of the Tariff Reduction on price of Wool"—G. H. Wallace.

10:30 A. M. Discussion.

11:00 A. M. Address, "Duties of a Shepherd"—R. T. McCulley.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

2:00 P.M. Address, "Effect of Bad Order and Burns in Selling Wool"—W. E. Gowdy, Kansas City.

3:00 P.M. Prof. W. H. Sanborn, State Agricultural College.

REGULATIONS.

None but members of this Association shall shear or exhibit sheep at its meetings, and no member shall shear more than four sheep before the Committee.

By order of Executive Committee.

H. M. SNEED, H. V. PUGSLEY,

President. Secretary.

Early Lambs.

E. M. Rees of Franklin, Ill., in the *Farmer and Fruit Grower* gives some timely hints about the care of ewes and lambs. He says we will be where their flocks should be to-day, if they are trying to raise early lambs, which is more profitable.

First, if your ewes have not already dropped their lambs, put them by themselves, and, if possible, under shelter and where the hogs cannot get the lambs.

Secondly, catch the ewe and start the milk in the teats, then see that the lamb sucks, and nine times out of ten he is safe.

Provided he can evacuate the wax; if not, he will blot up in a day or two cease to suck, and die. Take a small stick, tie on the end some cotton, thus making a probe, dip the probe into some oil—casserole is best—and insert it in the udder, and your lamb will probably get along all right.

In case the tail becomes stuck down (which it sometimes does) raise it up and clean it off. When from five to ten days old we dock them. The assistant catches the lamb as quietly as possible, holds it up to his breast, and with left hand holds its hind feet, and, grasping the tail with the thumb and fore-finger of the right hand, presses the skin back as far as possible.

The operator will then take the tail off, leaving the stub about one inch long. Then apply a pinch of ground sulphur to the end of the stub, which will have a tendency to check the flow of blood.

Soon recommend resorting with a hot iron; this we never find necessary.

If it should bleed much, we cord around the stub and let the cord remain a few hours.

Occasionally we have

had them to die in a few minutes after the operation was performed, apparently from the effects of the shock to the nervous system.

In fact, we lose more from this shock than any other cause.

If you defer docking until warm weather, and the lambs are then large, you must not only cord and seal, but you must smear the end with some pine tar, to keep off the flies.

Sheep Notes.

The sheep raisers of Middlebury, Vt., have recently made another shipment of 100 Merino rams to Australia.

At the late English fat stock show at Birmingham, three Lincolnshire wethers aggregated 806 pounds, at the age of twenty-one months.

The sheep returns for 1883 show an increase more than sufficient to offset the loss in 1882 in England and a satisfactory gain in Scotland and Wales also.

A late decision of the secretary of the treasury respecting the *ad valorem* features in some lines of wool imports is to the effect that if wool is bought in the bale and not in bulk the value of the baling cloth is considered a part of its actual value.

Despite low prices of wool, there is increasing attention paid to improved Merino sheep. Their owners vigorously protest against the idea that the high prices often paid for pedigree stock for breeding are at all "fancy." There are many imported males that will make gain of two or three pounds of wool in the average of three fine-wooled sheep, and when this gain is reckoned at its real value it more than repays the outlay for the improvement. Eastern-bred Merinos are now shipped to all the great wool-growing sections of the world.

The sheep is a very pliable animal in the hands of breeders, says the Pittsburgh Stockmen. Studied crossing and mating will produce marked results in the stock as in any other, whether the change be for the better or for worse. The ease with which the character of the flock can be entirely changed within a few years should lead breeders to be more careful about the purchase of the best breeding stock.

A mere ram can make an impression on a flock in a single season which it will require years to eradicate.

Buy something good, even at greatly enhanced cost.

Depreciating the disposition which some men show to abandon wool-growing, a prominent wool-grower writes: "Our lands will go to the dogs if we go out of sheep." There is truth in this which cannot well be gainsaid. Remarks the Pittsburgh Stockman, "If the flocks should be removed from this part of the United States, how, without greatly increased expense, would the fertility of our lands be maintained?" There is something in all this to make the distressed sheep-raiser stop and ask himself the question, Can I afford to quit? Really, we do not think he can. The "golden hoof" is a practical necessity.

In the northern states, sheep to produce fiber of first quality should be housed during winter; not closely confined, but have comfortable dry pens. They should be allowed to run in and out at pleasure. They should not be allowed to range over the fields, as that is fatiguing to the animals and the little picking of grass operates against their eating up the food given. They should have access to pure water every day. Sheep well housed and fed plenty of good hay and fodder need little grain. The latter should be given sparingly at first, but regularly, and slightly increased as the winter progresses, so that the sheep be not allowed to lose flesh. The outer end of all wool is weaker than that near the skin and should the sheep become very thin in flesh it splits and becomes quite rotten, consequently is of little value.

ABOUT RETAINING SHEEP.—The Ohio Farmer advises its readers not to sell too many of their sheep because the price of wool happens to be low, and adds: "It is well to reduce the flock when some other branch of farming will pay better, perhaps, but we would keep the flock well in hand," for by another year sheep may be very profitable. Who knows? Sheep will always pay when properly managed. We know of some farmers who keep none, and they could keep a small flock with very little extra expense. A good authority on sheep says that one sheep to every five acres of land can be kept, on grain or dairy farms. In addition to the full complement of other stock, and will bring in a profit of \$5 per head annually, which would otherwise be lost.

FOOT-ROT IN SHEEP.—Having been

benefited to the amount of several hundred dollars by a receipt found in the columns of your valuable paper, we feel it our humble duty to return thanks to the editor and the contributor who gave the receipt, whose name we do not remember.

It was for foot-rot in sheep,

and was published in the *Ohio Farmer*.

It is as follows:

"Take 10 lbs. of common soap.

10 lbs. of common salt.

10 lbs. of common lime.

10 lbs. of common alum.

10 lbs. of common borax.

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Horticultural.

(Judge Samuel Miller, Boston, Mo., will act as editor of the Horticultural Department in this journal. Any inquiries addressed to him will be promptly answered through the RURAL WORLD.)

Strawberries, green peas, and other early luxuries from the South, have not made their appearance in the St. Louis markets yet. One of our subscribers at Grand Bay, Ala., writes us his strawberries will be ready for market in a week or ten days, which he states is unusually late for first shipments from his section.

It is none too soon to suggest to fruit growers the propriety of securing without further delay berry box and crate materials, to the making up of which, you can devote your leisure hours between now and the shipping season—the too common practice of waiting until the fruit is nearly ripe before looking around for packages, gives rise to no little loss every year. In fact some growers have suffered considerably in this way, and the inexperienced each year, err in the same way—it may be said, in this connection, that at a certain stage of the season, the orders come in so fast that the box factories are unable to promptly fill them, and you must wait your turn, hence, the importance of ordering early.

Enquiries.

I am a young man without much experience in horticultural matters, would be pleased to have you answer a few questions in the RURAL WORLD about how to keep rabbits from barking fruit trees. One man says linseed oil and white lead mixed, and applied as a paint to the wood.

Do you think the oil will injure the tree?

Another says tar, sulphur and soft soap.

Now, do you think the tar would be injurious?

I see your plan for keeping the borer at bay. I want to ask if you bind paper with strings. If so, do you loosen them as the tree grows, to prevent them from cutting a ring around the tree.

I have some nice young trees wrapped after this fashion, with stripes of ducking cloth, which is rabbit proof, and would be borer proof also, but some of my friends think the cloth will bind the young trees so much as to ruin them, if left on through the summer. Please give me your opinion, and oblige an old subscriber.

G. S.

Noesho.

Would not advise the use of white lead with oil, but if you put one-fifth of pine tar it will keep off the rabbits and not injure the tree.

A much cheaper wash however, is whitewash with a little flowers of sulphur and soot mixed with it. But I fear the damage is mostly done for this winter. No danger of the ducking keeping the trees from expanding; the growth of vigorous young trees would tear asunder the strongest canvas. It will be likely to rot in a year. I would prefer this to paper if on hand, although I have never found the borer to work through the paper.

S. MILLER.

Mississippi Valley Horticultural Society.

OFFICE OF SECRETARY, LAFAYETTE, IND., February 20, 1884.—Your attention is earnestly directed to the great and growing importance of this organization.

The patrons of the agricultural and horticultural press of the country will have noticed the many leading discussions to the recent meeting at Kansas City. The first volume of Transactions (for 1882) now before the world, has received the highest commendations of practical horticulturists and pomologists everywhere. No pains will be spared to make the next volume excel the first in actual value. These books are distributed only to members (whose names, with post-office, appear in the volume) and to patrons of the "Business Directory." The annual fee of membership is \$2.00; the Directory fee \$3.00 additional. This Society is organized for the purpose of collecting and disseminating valuable information pertaining to horticulture and kindred sciences. It has no income, except from the sources mentioned above.

Your patronage as a horticulturist and a friend to horticulture is earnestly solicited. Further information given on application.

Early applicants will secure the double advantage of having their names published with the list of members.

PARKER EARLE, W. H. RAGAN, President, Secretary, Cobden, Illinois.

Peaches Injured in Texas.

FRIEND COLMAN: According to your request to send items of interest to the RURAL WORLD, I give the results of an examination of the peach buds here since the last severe weather, which damaged our crop to considerable extent. A few warm days swelled the buds a little, when very heavy and long continued rains came and a severe freeze followed with the wood and buds were still wet. The temperature sunk to 12°.

Twenty-five fruit buds on vigorous wood were taken from each variety named below and carefully examined with the following results:

Alexander 5 buds alive. Amsden 5, Brice's Early 5, Muses 9, Wilder 9, Hynes' Surprise 12, Early Louise 9, Early Rivers 10, Yellow St. John 9, Mt. Rose 12, Amelia 2, Harris' Early 3, Foster 4, Family Favorite 15, Mrs. Brett 3, Oldmixon Free 0, Early Crawford 0, Troth's Early 5, Grosse Mignonne 15, Thurber 4, Drift Hill 5, Chinese Cling 19, Sulphur 9, Gaylord 1, Late Crawford 2, Piquet's Late 10, Salway 0, Crimson Beauty Cling 18, Bonanza 3, Moorpark Apricot 12, Nectarines 0.

Of the 75 peach buds examined about 25 per cent. were alive. Some varieties which are usually very hardy, such as Columbia, Salway, Bonanza and Ringgold Cling have suffered the worst, while Chinese Cling has curiously stood best of all, though commonly suffers severely. But the Crawford, as usual have failed, while Grosse Mignonne, Piquet's Late, Crimson Beauty, Hynes' Surprise, Early Rivers and Family Favorite have stood true to their former record. The result of the freeze is not so disastrous as I at first apprehended. A general average of 26 per cent of fruit buds will make a fair crop, and the fruit is likely to be extra fine. Let others report conditions with them. The plums and all other fruits are still intact. T. V. MUNSON.

Dennison, Feb. 23rd, 1884.

Grapes.

EDITOR RURAL WORLD: In a recent number of the Farmer and Fruit Grower, Mr. T. B. Miller, in speaking of the Ives' seedling grape, says: "If growers would not be in such a hurry to get them on the market, they would get as good prices for them as for any other good fruit; for I can't see that it is a N. 1 grape when properly ripened."

I agree with Mr. Miller in regard to the

COLMAN'S RURAL WORLD.

Miller. Why will not other fruit-growers write? We ought to exchange views and experiences with one another.

MICHAEL BOODY,
Morgan Co., Ills.

REMARKS: This is a good time to plant peach trees. So many trees have been seriously injured that peaches will bring it into the market with the Concord, which, being much larger and more attractive, will sell much better; therefore, why not cultivate the Concord instead?

The fact is, the great majority of growers will be in such a hurry, and will pick their Ives as soon as they are colored, filling the market with "green grapes," disappointing every one who tastes them; that when the Concord appears, it finds the market so demoralized, and the people so prejudiced against the grape, that it is with difficulty they are made to understand that there is a good article to be had, and producers are forced to accept low prices from the start.

Considering these facts, I have always discouraged the production of the Ives, because, were it not for that variety, the Concord would be enabled to command good prices throughout the season.

He that will "sow the wind" in the shape of Ives seedling, will surely "reap the whirlwind" in low prices for his Concords.

E. T. HOLLISTER,
St. Louis, March 3, 1884.

The Cold Winter and the Fruit.

EDITOR RURAL WORLD: Many will recall Dr. Warder's remark, that while elevated positions are necessary as a general rule, for successful fruit growing, depressions also are necessary, into which the colder and heavier air may settle down, thereby saving the fruit. On the high grounds here, the lowest temperature during the past extremely cold winter was 17° below zero, while on the creek not far off, and in many other places, the thermometer marked 26° to 35° below zero. Here, the fruit buds of the peach, and many of the cherries are killed, but there is no injury of the wood.

Among the cherries it is interesting to note the difference in the hardiness of several varieties. Most of the sweet or heart kinds are killed, except a few of Kennicot, Gov. Wood, and Pontiac growing on very high ground. Dyehouse, the fine Kentucky variety brought to notice a few years ago, is scarcely touched, and will bear a full crop as usual.

Those not mentioned as cling are freestones.

CHAS. TEUBNER,
Columbia, Mo.

Chaff.

A tale of the night—the comet's.

Even the sun, which rises in the East, invariably comes West to settle.—[Chicago Inter-Ocean.]

A New Suit. Faded articles of all kinds restored to their original beauty by Diamond Eyes. Perfect and simple. 10c. at all drugstores. Wells, Richardson & Co., Burlington, Vt.

Joseph Cook lectures on the question—

"Does Death End All?" If it ends Cook It will be enough!—[Albany Argus.]

Cincinnati Times.—"Give us the day and date of Noah's landing, and Cincinnati will celebrate the anniversary through all future years."

Hopeless Epilepsy Cured.—"The doctors pronounced my case to be one of hopeless epilepsy," says our correspondent, W. C. Browning, Attorney at Law, Judsonia, Ark., "and declared death to be my only relief. Samaritan Hospital has cured me." Get at Druggists. \$1.50.

At a school at Wallsend, near Newcastle, the master asked a class of boys the meaning of the word "appetite"; and after a brief pause, one little boy said, "I know, Sir; when I eatin' I'm 'appy, and when I'm done I'm tight."

Hypochondriacs is a sad affliction to suffer from. It attacks all stations and conditions of life. There is a constant dread of impending dangers, the Damocles sword of an imaginary evil is suspended over, a morbid sensitiveness as to the thoughts and actions of others, etc. This disease generally arises from an affection of the liver, stomach, urinary organs, etc., and can be successfully combated by the aid of rest and light diet, and the use of a remedy which will restore new force, promote secretions and give tone to the whole system. Such a health restoring remedy has been found in the Home Stomach Bitters.

Female suffrage is a failure in Vermont.

Of 34 women who had a right to vote at a recent election in Burlington, only eight exercised the privilege.

R. J. BLACK.
Bremen, Fairfield Co., O., Feb. 21, '84.

Russian Mulberry.

EDITOR RURAL WORLD: This valuable fruit, timber and ornamental tree was brought to this country from Russia, latitude 49°, by the Mennonites, and is, as near as I can learn, a cross between the morus nigra, or black mulberry of Persia, and the morus Tartarian, a native Russian variety.

The part of Africa known as Nubia, where the mulberry is said to grow, so loudly as to make it heard for miles away.

The stem is hollow, and the action of the wind produces a sound similar to that emitted by a flute.

A railroad road at Florence, S. C., has a chime of whistles which serves as a time-keeper for the town.

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COLMAN'S RURAL WORLD
THIRTY-SIXTH YEAR.
BY NORMAN J. COLMAN
PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT
ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR.

ADVERTISING: 40 cents per line or agate space; re location on large or long time advertising.

Address: NORMAN J. COLMAN, Publisher
600 Olive Street, St. Louis, Mo.

(Advertisers will find the RURAL WORLD one of the best advertising mediums of its class in the country. This is the uniform testimony of all who have given it a trial. Many of our largest advertising patrons have used it for more than a quarter of a century, which is the highest possible recommendation of its value as an advertising medium.)

ADDRESSES.

Norman J. Colman has accepted invitations to deliver addresses at the following places and times:

BROWNSVILLE, Saline Co., Mo., March 15th, on the Dairy and Creamery Industry.

SEDLAIA, Mo., Wednesday, April 2nd, before the Missouri Shorthorn Breeders' Association on Breeding Practical Short-horns.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Thursday, April 3d, before the Missouri Wool Growers' Association.

OMAHA, Nebraska, Sep. 5th, Annual Address at the Nebraska State Fair.

INVITATION TO ADDRESS THE NURSERY-MEN'S MEETING.

COL. COLMAN: I am requested by a number of the members of the American Association of Nurserymen to invite you to deliver an address on "The Influence of Horticulture on Farm Life" at our coming meeting, in Chicago, in June, and hope you may find it convenient to accept and be present.

Yours respectfully, M. A. HUNT.

Chicago, March 4, 1884. President.

REPLY: The invitation is accepted, and it will give us great pleasure to be present at the meeting—for we know it will be a good one.

READERS OF THE RURAL WORLD should not hesitate when they see advertisements that interest them, to send for circulars that are sent free to all inquirers. Advertisers desire to present the merits of what they advertise to the great public, and a vast amount of valuable information is to be gained by reading circulars that are sent out. A dollar spent for postal cards to send for circulars is well spent, and will bring information worth many times the cost of the postal cards. We are always pleased to have our advertisers say they saw the advertisements in the RURAL WORLD.

One of the good results arising from the very severe winter passing away, is the immense ice crop that has been harvested at small figures. The leading operator in ice in this city informed the writer a few days ago, that there was so much ice put away that he would be exceedingly gratified if he would succeed in holding his own the next twelve months.

SUGAR has tumbled down in price to an alarming extent. One of the most extensive buyers in St. Louis informs us that clarified sugar is selling at eight cents a pound—the lowest figure it ever reached. He adds that unless the refineries consolidate, and take higher figures, some of them will be necessarily compelled to retire from the business, to permit the remainder to live.

STOCKMEN in Kansas, especially in the southern portion of the State, are becoming very much alarmed at present over the spread of the foot and mouth disease among cattle at many points, where a large number of them are exposed to it. A State meeting has been called to convene at Emporia on the 11th of March to consider the matter, and invoke the aid of the Legislature or the Governor of the State in checking or suppressing the disease, by quarantining the affected districts. At another meeting elsewhere, Congress is asked to stamp out the disease, as the whole country is interested in eradicating it. Dr. Truman, detailed by the National Agricultural Department, has discovered the mouth and foot disease among cattle near Yates centre, Woodson county. Dr. Holcomb, veterinary surgeon for the army at Ft. Leavenworth, is in Neosho county examining the disease among the cattle here. At Osage, a meeting of cattle men was held on the 8th, which adopted a resolution requesting Governor Glick to call a meeting of the Legislature to take action on the matter.

WHAT a change has come over us since the time when cotton was king, and held his throne undisputed for years. What a series of revelations have accompanied the general revolution during which cotton steadily declined in value and importance to the producing classes, until it is now one of the last in the list of farm products. The average cotton product of the past few years was 6,000,000 bales at an average value of \$40 a bale, giving us \$240,000,000 as the gross value of the staple. Now experts in the chicken and egg business say that what millions are involved in this insignificant industry, and what it yields the business capacity and good management of all the cities and towns of the country for the same articles. Thus, we find that cotton once king, has become one of the least important staples, and no longer an important factor in the resources of industries of the country. It may be added that it has become one of the most unprofitable crops now cultivated in the South, and no longer offers an inviting field to labor or capital.

IDEAL LABOR IN CITIES.

A commission merchant of this city informed the writer a few days ago, that he recently advertised for a book-keeper. The size of his mail for the next few days was something appalling. The advertisement—a few lines—appeared only in one paper and in an obscure corner, and, it is fair to presume, did not catch the eye of one-third of the young men who were anxiously seeking employment, and competent to fill such a position. Yet, the two days following brought him 500 letters, and anxiety and want were spread over the pages of half those replies. A number of the letters were written by men of experience and ability, who were willing to work on any terms. Indeed, a number of these writers signified a willingness to accept whatever the employer saw fit to offer. The reading of these letters, revealed a story that would prove interesting and instructive to the many young men in the country who have designs on city life, and who see only the bright side when they visit it. There is no limit to the wants of this character in business houses, but it appears there is no limit to the number of young men that are constantly seeking positions and openings that are rarely visible. How these idle people manage to exist in the meantime, or what be-

comes of them, remains one of the unexplained mysteries. There is a volume of information in the foregoing for the young men on the farm, who are dissatisfied with their lot in life, and we commend it to their careful consideration.

The leading grain operators, receivers and sellers, no longer recognize the slow and uncertain method practiced heretofore in securing shipments or consignments. Now, they send their agents into every neighborhood where there is any grain, and buy outright, paying usually more than the holder can get by sending on commission. The producer or seller, in this way, gets paid for every pound he has, and avoids the loss arising through leakages, as well as the expenses attached to selling away from home. It also brings to his door a wholesome competition, and destroys any combination that may exist among local buyers. It secures him, in a word, the very highest figures the market affords, and leaves him not so much at the mercy of local operators, as he was before.

The farmer who is prepared, and can afford to wait, and avail himself of these opportunities—the man who is not in debt—is in a position to make his products yield more than they ever did before.

H. M. KELLY, a well-known correspondent of the RURAL WORLD, of Montgomery County, Ill., was in our office on Tuesday last, on his way home from the South, where he had been looking for a new home for himself and family. The cold weather of this winter has made him, with his advancing years, think of looking around for a warmer nest than he can find in his own State.

He had been no farther south than Judsonia, Arkansas, whither he had gone to look into the condition of the fruit crop prospects for the ensuing year. He reports that for at least a hundred and twenty-five miles south of the Missouri line, the prospects for a full crop of plums, apples and strawberries are good, whilst the cherries and the peaches are very badly used up by frost. The winter generally was severe on account of the cold, but some few peaches and other of the hardest vegetables, had been planted.

Grape was poor and the cattle too, for the winter has been cold even there, and the fodder and feed pretty much used up.

As a farming country for men of the north, Mr. Kelly says the country looked poor (as an agricultural country). Men of the north would perhaps do more with the same soil but the men of Arkansas will soon be out by with an infusion of northern blood and make much more of both of their soil and climate.

The fruit business is largely on the increase and seems to pay well to those who attend to it with brain and muscle, but as with any other business, slouch work returns slouch pay. While White County, Ark., may be called a fruit region there will be years when it will not pay, but some years the profits are immense; thus for a term of, say ten years, it would pay well if diligently attended to. Mr. Kelly further says, by some it is called a stock country; he thinks a good stock country means a good corn country. White county is a good meat country, but not good for corn, and as for cattle and sheep, he says they lack the tame grasses for early and late grazing and for stock that may be kept up. He says the citizens say clover and tame grasses do well but they fail to show up.

One trouble is, cotton is king, and a very tyrannical king too. All the best land is put in cotton and worn out, but little feed, and the stock generally looks as if ready to ready to shew off. Yearling calves, \$4 to \$6, two-year-olds \$6 to \$8 etc., too much cotton the principal cause.

GOOD STREETS.

Good roads is a subject in which farmers are more interested than good streets, but many of them are, at times, lead interested when after a long drive they get into town and find themselves stalled with a heavy load. For many years we have visited Springfield, Ills., the capital of the State, but in winter the mud was generally almost hub-deep; mud of the blackest and filthiest kind, too, because used for the same purpose for more than a third of a century; and in summer dust of the meanest and dirtiest.

On a late visit, we found that all transformed into good pavement, the mud and the bulk of the dust all gone, and seven miles of most excellent streets over which at all seasons of the year a loaded team may travel as easily as over an oak-en floor. The change is indeed wonderful, and all visitors to the capital city of that great State, who have seen it in days past will tell on their next visit be very agreeably surprised.

It was not done however, until an old law which refused the levying of municipal taxes beyond a certain per cent had been removed from the statute books and a new one formulated and adopted more in keeping with the necessities of a city of its class to-day.

Then the soil was removed to the proper depth, and the surface graded. The surface was covered with light sand, and it with two inch cypress planks, and to make the crown bed, red cedar boards seven inches long were placed, and tightly and mechanically packed vertically, costing we understand \$1.25 per square yard for all the work.

This, it will readily be seen, makes a solid, clean, good road and without mud, or even dust, unless the ordinary wear of the surface which is as easily swept as an ordinary floor. This comes from the business capacity and good management of an old St. Louisian, John McCreary, who for two or three consecutive years was elected mayor of the city, and largely interested in its welfare.

It but requires now the planting of shade trees on many of its principal streets, and the completion of the capital to make it a model city and a desirable place to live in.

IDEAL LABOR IN CITIES.

A commission merchant of this city informed the writer a few days ago, that he recently advertised for a book-keeper. The size of his mail for the next few days was something appalling.

THESE are nothing that has more influence upon the family than the papers and books read by its members. The farmer that would have bright, intelligent children must instill to their intellects what is provided in the good papers. Even the children should have such journals as they can read, and that they will take an interest in, to start them off right, and give them a taste and love for reading. And parents should talk about matters they read about to enlist the attention of the members of the family. Newspapers make parents bright, and they in turn brighten the minds of their children by conversing with them. Parents who do not provide abundant reading for the family, and that of the best kind, make a grievous mistake. As a medium of education, family reading has no superior.

IT is bad policy for a farmer to cultivate only one crop. If that fails he has lost his year's work; but if he cultivates several crops some of them are always sure to succeed, and some will command a remunerative price. A farmer about this character in business houses, but it appears there is no limit to the number of young men that are constantly seeking positions and openings that are rarely visible. How these idle people manage to exist in the meantime, or what be-

comes of them, remains one of the unexplained mysteries. There is a volume of information in the foregoing for the young men on the farm, who are dissatisfied with their lot in life, and we commend it to their careful consideration.

CREAMERIES.

There are many places throughout the country where creameries are wanted—but those who want them don't exactly know how to go to work to have them erected. We shall be happy to assist in any efforts to establish creameries anywhere, and, if those who want them will notify us, we will do what we can to aid in their erection. Write to us and we will give further particulars.

COLMAN'S RURAL WORLD.

The Nashville American pays the following high compliment to our journal: "Colman's RURAL WORLD, published at St. Louis, comes to us considerably enlarged. It is in all respects one of the very best agricultural papers of the country. Those of our Tennessee farmers who have their attention attracted to sorghum culture would do well to subscribe to the RURAL WORLD, as it is standard authority on that subject. It costs but a dollar a year. Address Norman J. Colman, 600 Olive street, St. Louis, Mo."

LEGISLATION IN REGARD TO FORESTRY.

COL. COLMAN: After looking over the ground and consulting the Commissioner of Agriculture Loring, I call the "Committee on Legislation" appointed at our Kansas City meeting of the Mississippi Valley Horticultural Society—consisting of yourself and eight others—to meet at the Agricultural Department Building in this city on May 7, 1884. The American Forestry Congress convened at same time and place, and it is thought we can add each other. Truly yours, J. STERLING MORTON.

WHAT THEY SAY OF FARMERS.

It is said: That the farmer subsists himself upon Jersey milk, and spring lambs and chickens, and regaleth himself with the fragrance of new-mown hay, and the aroma of his horse stables. That he rideth a sulky plow and reaper, instead of stumbling over the clods of the valley; and weareth a hickory shirt and butternut pants, without fear of molestation or abuse. That he riseth early before sunrise, and setteth up late, that he may fill his barns and store-houses with plenty, and subserveth for some good weekly paper, and pays for it, the he may before his mind with all knowledge.

He getteth out of bed at four o'clock in the morning and stirreth up the maid-servant out of her lair, while he warmeth himself, and is comforted by the kitchen fire. He eateth his breakfast by candle-light, while the sad and weary wife of his bosom and mother of his children longs for the peaceful, happy days of her childhood. He groweth and is sore distressed if it rains, and anon he beateth his breast, and repineth at the severity of the drought, saying: "Alas! my crop is ruined!" Verily the late rains do blight his wheat, the frost nippeth his standing corn, potato bugs ravage his fields and the assessor saddleth him with galling taxes. He weareth a blouse and blue jeans, and men call him a "tramp." He is shaven and clad in broadcloth and fine linen, and people say, "Behold the dude!" He payeth for insurance on his buildings for twenty years, and then letteth his policy lapse one day, and the same night a fire destroyeth his home. His daughter married a man of culture and wealth, becoming the proudest possessor of a palatial residence, and in a few short years becomes a widow, out of his habituation to shelter them and their children. He selleth out his farm and moveth to Kansas, and their slaketh his thirst with alkali-water and corn-juice. A cyclone catcheth him at midday and sweepeth his house, stock and fences into Missouri, while he sheltereth and preserveth the lives of his wife and little ones in a "dug out." He maketh his will at the end of his days, and dieth; and the lawyers of his widow and of his first wife's children take possession of and divide his inheritance.—From an Address by F. Little, before Michigan State Association.

GREEN fallowing is the most rapid and cheapest method of stimulating the soil to the production of more abundant crops. A dense crop of oats, clover, rye, buckwheat or other green herbage, even to smart weeds, turned under when in its most succulent state, is the cheapest way of fertilizing land. The herbage thus turned under yields more vegetable mould, and incorporates in the soil the nitrogenous bodies necessary for high cultivation.

THESE are the most useful articles on a farm is the common stone boat; but an improvement in many respects is a sled having runners eight to ten inches broad and shaped just like the ordinary stone-boat bottom. These draw much easier on soft ground, as there is less surface friction, while the runner is still wide enough not to cut deeply on the ground. For most purposes the sled should be built a foot or fifteen inches high, so that it can pass small obstructions without hitting them.

WILLIAM HAINES, of Hoosick Falls, N. Y., is evidently a good farmer. His farm contains 310 acres, and yielded last year 1,800 bushels of beets, 2,500 bushels of oats, 2,344 bushels of corn in the ear, 237 bushels of rye, 147 bushels of potatoes, and 700 tons of ensilage. One trip over the roads, and he has a load of manure, and preserves the lives of his wife and little ones in a "dug out." He maketh his will at the end of his days, and dieth; and the lawyers of his widow and of his first wife's children take possession of and divide his inheritance.—From an Address by F. Little, before Michigan State Association.

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COLMAN'S RURAL WORLD.

WORLD by the Woodman Linseed Oil Works, of Omaha, Nebraska?

M. H.

Buchanan Co., Mo.

REPLY: Mix a pint of this meal with a couple quarts of bran for each colt, and feed it night and morning. It can be fed wet or dry, as the colt eats it best. Nothing improves colts more than such food. Of course the colt needs good hay and some oats besides. Let them have a run outdoors every pleasant day. Keep salt always within their reach. Oil-cake meal is as good for all other kinds of stock as it is for colts.

W. H. Wilson, Abdallah Park, Cynthia, Ky., will sell his yearling trotting stock in April next. They are by Indiana Bells, 2:21; Jubilee Lamb, 2:25; and Ravenswood, 2:26, out of standard mares. His sale catalogues will be ready for distribution about the 15th of March. Send to him for one. He keeps the choicest trotting stock.

The Morgan Horses.

COL. COLMAN: In the last issue of the RURAL WORLD on Breeding Horses, you gave a good article. We need better horses for farm work, and good stallions are needed. We

have in this locality a Norman Percheron stallion for many years, and there are a good many half-bred now here, very good for the city market, but not for the farm. We want a horse for all purposes, if it can be had. There is a breed called the Morgan horses. It has special qualities as a farm horse and is of good size and style. Will you or some of your readers please tell us all about this breed of horses, and where to be found pure, through the RURAL WORLD?

C. A. GRIESMAN.

St. Charles Co., Mo.

Our friend M. T. Grattan, of Preston, Minn., has a very fine Morgan stallion, and is an especially champion of the Morgan breed. We would be glad to have him write us a short letter, telling us what he thinks of this breed.

A Tribute to the Norman Horse.

In the closing paragraphs of the historical portion of the National Register of Norman Horses, may be found the following: "The Western farmer finds that he can raise a Norman colt about as easily and about as cheaply as he can raise a Shorthorn steer, and then readily get from six to eight times as much for the former as he can get for the latter; for, notwithstanding the vast army of propagators, the price keeps up, with no sign of ever going down, because the market, in consequence of the marvelous and endless development of our material resources, is even in advance of the supply of horses."

"Since 1851, the Norman horse has crossed the Alleghenies, the Ohio, the Wabash, the Mississippi, the Missouri, the Rockies; and everywhere he thrives, grows in favor, and maintains his imperishable individuality. From the Atlantic to the Pacific, in every State, in every Territory, he is, in type, in qualities, in disposition, the same peerless animal. His power, his endurance, his unequalled kindness and tractability, have won for him the warmest chamber in the heart of the breeder, and the most exalted position in public favor. Stallion-keepers love him because he is easily managed, is a sure foal-getter, and an incomparable improver of common horses. Farmers love him because he is easily reared, cheaply kept, no trouble to break, excellent at the plow, invincible at the wagon, and always marketable at the very best prices. Teamsters and freight-haulers love him because he never balks, always takes a load with him when he goes, and, with half a chance, keeps in good condition. Dealers admire him because he is so gentle in handling, and is a never-failing source of profit. In a word, he is a universal favorite."

Horse Notes.

Horses hard at work need water much more frequently than the morning, noon and night plan. If not allowed to drink between morning and noon, they become extremely thirsty and will overheat their stomachs with water, so that their food will not digest quickly.

Oat straw is generally preferred to any other for feeding horses, though analysis shows it less nutritive than wheat. Barley straw is objectionable for most kinds of stock, on account of its rough beards. It is probable that the softer texture of oat induces animals the more readily to eat it.

W. H. Edwards, President of the Cleveland Trotting Association, says, "This will be a rousing season of trotting. There is more public interest than ever. The record will go down I think, to 2:10, possibly 2:07, or between 2:08 and 2:10 somewhere. What we want most is good square trotting and no foolishness. We are buttoning them down pretty close to that, with the rules now in force."

Joe Cairn Simpson says: Tips have been used for a century, at least, but the application had always been faulty. Set into the foot so as to preserve the proper bearing on the ground, that part of the fore foot, most liable to wear, was protected, and at the same time the advantages of an unfettered tail, the spring of the commissures and the elasticity of the girdle secured. We commenced the use of tips set in this way in 1875, wrote the first article in April, 1876, describing the experiments, and since this date of using have never had a shoe put on the fore feet of our own horses, and for two years have discarded them on the hind feet.

Mr. R. O. Loosely returned on Monday from Mercer county, Illinois, with four as fine trotting horses as were ever brought to Southern Kansas. The first is a mare, Dolly V., she is bred by Danner's Messenger and from a well-bred racing mare. Dolly V. can show a 2:45 gait at any time without training. She is a chestnut, and a neat, strong built animal weighing eleven hundred. She is due to foal in next month, and came on the cars without accident. The next is Polly L., also a chestnut, three years old, a daughter of Dolly V. Polly L. is by Logan No. 521, Wallace's Record. Logan has a record of 2:28. The third is Pete Logan, Jr., a two-year-old chestnut, from Dolly V., also by Logan. The fourth is a yearling, a dark bay colt from Dolly V. by The Grandson No. 1129. Grandson can show a mile in 3:00 without handling. Polly L. bids fair to take high rank among the fast trotters of the country, having trotted in 2:50 for two years old. The introduction of this stock is of great importance to the stock interests of Montgomery county.—*Independence Kansas.*

The leading characteristics of the Morgan family may be thus enumerated: Their color is mostly dark bay; but from the Black Hawk branch we have frequently blacks and chestnuts, and this latter is the prevailing color of the Golddusts. They are compact in form, sound in feet and legs, the latter of which are heavily muscled above the knee and hock, and below they are broad and sinewy. Their bodies are round and heavily chested, necks well set, high and arching crest. The head is the crowning glory of the Morgan horse, the eye and the ear so beautiful in form and expression, that the lover of the horse is always charmed with the view. They are kind in disposition and very tractable, adjusting themselves to the kind of work in which they are engaged, whether it be the dray or the sulky, with an intelligence almost human. They are proud and stylish drivers, accompanied with such remarkable powers of endurance, that more is expected of a Morgan horse than of any other. They are long-lived horses, many of them retaining much of their physical vigor up to the age of thirty years.

"The proposition to allow horses to trot for purses of \$20 or less, without obtaining a record to bar them from larger purses, was not received with favor by the late Turf Congress. This we truly regret, but are not astonished, for the Congress was composed of representatives of large circuit tracks—of men who have no sympathy with the smaller organizations. Mr. Hamlin, of Buffalo, and M. T. Grant, advocated the measure, but they were a hopeless minority, and the amendment or addition to the rules was withdrawn without being passed to a vote. Breeders, owners of great horses, managers of fairs and associations that can only afford to give small purses, will doubtless appreciate this kindly feeling for their interests. But we predict that the time will surely come when these gentlemen will be pleased to change their tune. The next Turf Congress will be held in the West—at Chicago, when this project will again be brought up, and if western horsemen are true to their interests, it will not be so easily throttled by Eastern associations."

In common with every Western horseman, whose opinion has reached our ears, we believe the adoption of such a rule would greatly diminish the suppression of time, be a great benefit to owners of young and green horses, as well as to fairs and small associations, and materially check the "ringers" business. But nothing can be done toward it for another year, and while we promise to work with all our might to secure the desired legislation, we shall at all times stand up for the strict enforcement of existing rules. Our motto is, obey and respect a law, no matter how unjust or oppressive it may be, until it can be repealed, and during the coming season, the Sportsman will be prompt to expose and denounce "suppression of time," "pulling" "put up jobs," and all other violations of the National rules, either by horsemen or associations.

Not the Western Sportsman mistakes when it says nothing can be done for a year? No? Then we can do for two years at least, for the Congress adjourned to meet two years hence in Chicago—so there will be no change for two years."

BREEDERS' DIRECTORY.

W. M. J. MILLER, Breeder of Short-Horn Cattle, Percheron Horses and Berkshire Hogs, Turner Hill Farm, Belleville, St. Clair County, Illinois.

H. B. SCOTT, Sedalia, Mo., breeder of Short-Horn Cattle, Poland China Hogs and Cornish Sheep. Anything in the herd for sale.

H. B. REED AND ABERDEEN ANGUS CATTLE—C. H. COOPER, Cooper, Mo., importers and breeders, Independence, Mo. An inspection of their herds is invited.

S. HORTHORN CATTLE—J. F. FINLEY, Breckinridge, Ky., breeder of Shorthorn Cattle and Berkshire Swine. Imported Kirkland Lad at head of herd. Stock for sale at all times.

K. ANAS SHORTHORN CATTLE—Robert K. Patton, M. D., Hamlin, Kansas, breeder of Shorthorn Cattle of the best families. Stock for sale. Inspection invited.

JAMES H. PARKER, Columbia, Mo., breeder of Shorthorn cattle, Southdown and Cotswold sheep. Duke of Monmouth 2979 is head of herd. Prices reasonable.

A. NGUS AND GALLOWAY CATTLE—W. H. A. and son, and son-in-law, Lee, Mo., importers and breeders of Angus and Galloway cattle and Spanish and native Jacks.

C. CHARLES E. LEONARD, proprietor, Rainwood herd of Shorthorn Cattle, imported Spanish Jacks and Jenets and Merino Sheep, Bell Air, Cooper Co., Mo., or Princeton, Mo. P. R. H.

JOS. E. MILLER, Ellwood Stock Farm, Belleville, Ill., breeder of Holstein cattle, Shropshire sheep and Yorkshire swine.

HIGH CLASS BATTERY CATTLE, bred and for sale by M. W. Anderson, Independence, Mo., Crags, Barringtons, Harts, Places Acombi, and Kirklevington Duke on 32 3280 head of herd.

F. D. DUNHAM, BREEDER OF HOGS, and Large English Bovines. Plymouth Rock Pigs, all of the very best breeds. Imported from England. Bridges, Jefferson Co., Mo., N. B. A lot of very early Pigs now. Eggs for Hatching \$1 per setting box of 13. Write or call.

MERINO SHEEP, Berkshire Hogs and 14 varieties of high-class Poultry, all of the best strains. HARRY McCULLOUGH, Fayette, Mo.

POULTRY CHINA AND BERKSHIRE HOGS—L. S. TURNER, Hillside Farms, Beloitville, St. Clair County, Illinois.

POLYMYTHON BIRDS—W. H. Allen, Sedalia, Mo., also breed Plymouth Rock Chickens.

POLYMYTHON BIRDS—W. H. Allen, Sedalia, Mo., or Dr. G. H. Donaldson, Beloitville, Ky.

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The Home Circle.

KATIE'S PRAYER.

In the nursery chamber,
At the close of day.
Little white-robed Katie,
Kneels her prayers to say.
"Jesus, tender shepherd,"
Softly she has said;
Adding, "Now I lay me,"
Still she bows her head;
"Jesus, I am lonely."
Now little Gracie's dead,
And I want a sister."

Thus the sweet voice plead—
"Jamie oft plays with me,
But he pulls my ears,
And Wilbur says that boys
Weren't made to play with girls.

To-morrow-day is Christmas;
Dear Jesus, if you please,
Just ask dear, good old Santa—
I know I mustn't tease—
But if a baby sister
He has among his toys,
To put her in my stocking—
Be sure, not any boys!"

She slept, and all the air
Seemed full of baby faces,
Now near, now far they float,
With fairy forms and faces;
Each had so many charms,
She knew not which to choose;
Blue eyes, and black, and brown,
How could she one refuse.

Kind Santa saw her trouble,
And from the lovely throng,
A blue-eyed, fair-haired darling
He gently wats along;
"How like my dear, dear Gracie!"
Oh, please that one give me!"
And then he smiled and told her,
"Your sister she shall be."

With outstretched arms to clasp her
She sprang, when, oh, she woke
To find herself enfolded
In papa's arms; nor spoke
Until she told her she was
In nurse's lap, I ween
The very blue-eyed darling,
She in her dream had seen.

"You precious little darling!"
She cried with voice of glee;
"You never, never'd been here,
It hadn't been for me!"

From Idyl.

I seize upon this, my earliest leisure, to offer my hearty congratulations to our editor on the enlargement of our favorite journal, the good old RURAL. Also to thank him for throwing open the door of the Home Circle for admiring inspection of the new quarters. In regard to this marked kindness on his part, we should endeavor to make of our page the cosiest, most inviting corner of the whole establishment. Having also visited every other department this week, I find each and all evidencing the same intentions at headquarters, to make for us a "better than the best" of journals. I am glad to see this sign of prosperity, and am sure its popularity is well deserved by our RURAL.

Now, let us all quit quarreling and complimenting, and settle down to "business." And I want to say, in this connection, that some kind friend, to me unknown, is so good as to have sent to me, every other week, as published, the numbers of the Standard Library, published in New York City. The books are all by standard authors, and excellent reading, and I highly appreciate the favor, and wish I knew to whom thanks are due. If to any member of our "Circle," let this testify my gratitude.

Another colleague, though not wishing to create an enviable feeling, I must tell you that I had recently the pleasure of shaking hands with the Home Circle editor, and he kissed the baby! IDYLL.

Home.

PART II.—BY WALNUT.

The following thoughts on "Home Affection," by H. C. Dane, are as true as they are good, and are well worthy of being read aloud weekly, in every home circle, and in every school room:

"Affection does not beget weakness, nor does it effeminate for a brother to be tenderly attached to his sister.

That boy will make the noblest, the bravest man. On the battle field, in many terrible battles during our late war, I always noticed that those boys who had been reared under the tenderest home culture always made the best soldiers. They were always brave, always endured the severe hardships of camp, the march, or the bloody field, most silently, and were most dutiful at every call. More, much more, they resisted the frightful temptations that so often surrounded them, and seldom returned to their loved ones stained with the sins of war. Under their protection, home was always safe.

We see the same every day in the busy life of the city. Call together one hundred young men in our city, and spend an evening with them, and we will tell you their home education. *

The young man who was accustomed to kiss his sweet, innocent, loving sister, night and morning as they met, shows his influence upon him, and he will never forget it, and when he shall take some one to his heart as his wife, she shall reap the golden fruit thereof. The young man who was in the habit of giving his arm to his sister as they walked to and from church, will never leave his wife to find her way as best she can.

Mothers and daughters, wives and sisters, remember that, and remember that you have the making of the future of this great country, and rise once to your high and holy duty. We are all that you make us. Ah! throw away your weakening follies of fashion and soul-famine, and rise to the level where God intended you should be, and make every one of your homes from this day, schools of true politeness and tender affection. Take those little curly-headed boys, and teach them all you would have men to be, and my word for it, they will be just such men, and will go forth to bless the world, and crown you with a glory such as queens and empresses never dreamed of. Yield your power now, and you shall reap the fruit in your ripe age."

Here is a sad, sad fact for our girls and young women to consider. It is all too true. Let them think and ponder deeply, seriously, wisely, over these words by Mary E. Lathrop: "The pastor of a church in one of our large cities said to me not long ago: 'I have officiated at forty weddings since I came here, and in every case save one, I felt that the bride was running an awful risk.' Young men of bad habits and fast tendencies never marry girls of their own sort, but demand a wife above suspicion. So pure, sweet women, kept from the touch of evil through the years of their girlhood, give themselves, with all their costly dower of womanhood, into the keeping of men, who, in base

associations, have learned to undervalue all that belongs to them.

"There is but one way out of this that I can see, and that is for you—the young women of the country—to require in association and marriage, purity for purity, sobriety for sobriety, and honor for honor. There is no reason why the young men of this Christian land should not be just as virtuous as its young women, and if the loss of your society and love be the price, they are forced to pay for it if we do not pay for it. And with this in mind, that not two of our young women are capable of this high standard for themselves or others; too often from the hand of reckless beauty has the temptation to drink come to men; but, I believe there are enough of earnest, thoughtful girls in the society of our country to work wonders in the temperance reform, if fully aroused. Dear girls, will you help us in the name of Christ? Will you, first of all, be so true to yourselves and God, so pure in your inner and outer life, that you shall have a right to ask that the young man with whom you associate, and especially those you marry, shall be the same? The awful gulf of dishonor is close beside your feet, and in it fathers, brothers, lovers, and sons are going down. Will you not help us in our great work?"

G. E. Banks contributes a good poem, called, "What I Live For." It is the last stanza only, and it expresses my sentiments truly:

"I live for those who love me,
For those who know me true,
For the heaven that smiles above me,
And aways my spirit too;
For the wrong that needs resistance,
For the cause that lacks assistance,
For the friends in the distance,
And the good that I can do."

"We live in deeds, not years; in thoughts,
not words;

In feelings, not in figures on a dial.
We should count time by heart-throbs. He
mores lives,

Who thinks most, feels the nobiest, acts the
best."

Mrs. Burr tells thus about "Smiles," how they light up the home with happiness:

"If people will only notice, they will be amazed to find how much a really enjoyable evening owes to smiles. But few consider what an important symbol of fine intellect and fine feeling they are. Yet all smiles, after childhood, are things of education. Savages do not smile; coarse, brutal, cruel men may laugh, but they seldom smile. The affluence, the benediction, the radiance, which "fills the silence like a speech, is the smile of a full appreciative heart."

"The face that grows finer as it listens, and then breaks into sunshine instead of words, has a subtle, charming influence, universally felt, though very seldom understood or acknowledged. Personal and sarcastic remarks show not a bad heart and a bad head, but bad taste also."

"Polished manners have often made, a sounder successful, while the best of men, by their hardness and coldness, have done themselves incalculable injury; the shell being so rough that the world could not believe there was a precious kernel within. Civility is to a man what beauty is to a woman. It creates an instantaneous impression in his behalf, while the opposite quality excites as quick a prejudice against him. It is a real ornament, the most beautiful dress that man or woman can wear, and worth more, as a means of winning favor, than the finest clothes and jewels ever worn.

The gruffest man loves to be appreciated, and it is often the sweet smile of a woman, which they intend for us alone, than a pair of June-like eyes, or "lips that seem on roses fed," that bewitches our heart, and lays us at the feet of her whom we afterwards marry."

"Anyways, "let this testify my gratitude."

"Another colleague, though not wishing to create an enviable feeling, I must tell you that I had recently the pleasure of shaking hands with the Home Circle editor, and he kissed the baby!" IDYLL.

Feb. 22, 1884.

excellent. Come again soon and often, dear sorrowing sister, but remember you will not be friendless here. We have felt the pressure of the heavy hand of sorrow, and can sympathize with others.

I can not express all the sympathy I feel for bleeding hearts. How glad I would be if I could say aught that would send a ray of light into your weary heart.

"Hearts that are rich are those that have

wep't,"

Melted by grief, long ago."

Like our beloved Idyll, you can help others by your heartfelt sympathy.

Our Savior brought himself nearer to suffering mortals by sympathizing like unto us. Your darling that he has taken upon himself, can not come to you, but you can go to him and find him pure as when entrusted to your care.

That poem from your scrap-book, Fred, is grand. Who does not agree with John Shepherd, that

"No writing lifts exalted man so high

As sacred and soul-moving poetry;

No kind of work requires so nice a touch,

And it well finished, nothing shines so much."

I received an interesting letter a short time ago from one of my adopted brothers, an orphan, who is a victim to that dread disease consumption. In October he left Kansas, for a journey South, and on the way visited St. Louis, Indianapolis, and Cincinnati, went through the Mammoth Cave, stopped in Nashville and visited President Polk's tomb and former residence, the State House, and Vanderbilt and Fisk Universities. At Chattanooga he saw Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge. He was through the National Cemetery where the soldiers are buried. He wrote from Ringold, Ga., six miles from Chickamauga battlefield, and on the line of Sherman's "March to the Sea." That town was Grant's headquarters 20 years ago this winter. Our army burned the place and 400 of our brave boys were killed in the street. My friend is grateful for the kindness of the people there, and thinks of going on to Florida. How I would enjoy such a trip over historical ground. A full description of the journey would give me great pleasure.

Josiah, when you settle in Northwest Missouri, let us hear from you.

We are taking of removing thither, but I would like a description of the country before deciding to make the change.

I wish to answer your letter soon, Val-

erie, and will enclose photo, but you must remember to find a good artist soon.

Come often, Fanny, I like your non-

sense. Did dull care never cast his shadow near your pathway? May you

never run away from the less moping.

Come over, and let's farm this summer.

Ruskin says: "To watch the corn grow and the blossoms set, to draw hard breath over plough-shares and spade; to read, to think, to love, to hope, to pray, these are the things which make man happy." And so says

SCHOOLMA'AM.

Feb. 22, 1884.

Letter from Boss.

FOR THE HOME CIRCLE: I want to tell you about a cactus I have; it is 15 years old, a foot high and 3 1/2-2 feet in circumference.

It is in a large dish pan now, but I will have to put it in a tub before long, as the pan is full. I do not know the real name of it. I call it pin cushion cactus. I have two of the same kind of the same age. One of them I have kept entirely free from sets, and no one who sees them imagines for a moment that they are the same species. It blooms when young, a satiny green blossoms full of yellow stamens. I will send a set to anyone sending me one variety of cactus or three varieties of chrysanthemum. I have another cactus 13 years old, which has never bloomed. What shall I do with it?

Mrs. M. A. BUCKNELL.

Alhambra, Madison Co., Ills.

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From TUSTA-NUG-GET-MATHIA.

FRIENDS OF THE HOME CIRCLE: It has been a long time since I have written anything for the Circle. We have had some very cold weather for the last six weeks, and as Lloyd Guyot said in his last, I loved my toes, but thought I was going to lose them.

I liked Mary Glendolen's poem, Mother. What a dear name! The first word that we are taught in childhood, and by many the last spoken. True, she has said, among most sacred memories I hold my mother dear. Who is it that cares for us in our childhood? Mother; and she is it that is the first to our relief in sickness, and the last to leave us. Blessings on the precious mother.

Lloyd Guyot informs us that Fred is still alive, and is still keeping them with him. He is in the hospital of His Hospital—O'Halloran, I believe it is Ham Lake. Lloyd must have got on the bank, catch him by the heels, Fred, and pull him back, so the concert will be complete. I fear he will catch cold during this warm weather, and his voice will be injured.

I am glad to see that the Col. is going to get the Circle to business.

Angusta, let us hear from you on the subject of milking. I think I can sympathize with you, I used to have to milk. I used to go to the Asbury Labor school, and the boys had all the work to do; some worked on the farm, some washed dishes (when I began) and some milked (when I ended) the cows. At the close of school I found myself one of the latter. Augusta lets us believe she is a rider, (only wish she lived here). I would like to have some help to water horses and break ponies. I rode one a few days ago that was a splendid dancer; sometimes he was dancing around and around, and the next thing I knew, he would be trying to square up by standing on his head. Well, to tell the truth, he pitched for half an hour; don't you know I had a jolly ride. Well, I will have to learn to ride again.

The Driver's weight is mainly over the fore wheel, which acts as the landside to the plow, and is AN ADVANTAGE IN SAVING HORSES.

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600 LB. PLATE, \$15.

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The Dairy.

Officers Mississippi Valley Dairy and Creamery Association.

President—Norman J. Colman, St. Louis.
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street, St. Louis.

The Mississippi Valley Dairy and Creamery Convention.

We continue this week the addresses delivered at the late convention held in this city.

MISSOURI AS A DAIRY STATE.

BY T. D. CURTIS, SYRACUSE, N. Y.

I have for years wondered why the middle States do not go more into dairying. I consider them better adapted to this business than are the extreme Northern ones. The very thing that is cited against them is what I consider in their favor—a higher temperature. Of course, one cannot successfully raise cream up in the eighties and nineties, nor long keep milk sweet at that temperature. But we have apparatus for setting milk that works equally well whether the weather be hot or cold. We can control the temperature of our milk, and produce equally good results at all seasons, whatever the temperature of the atmosphere may be, so far as handling and manipulation are concerned. Once we were dependent on the condition of the atmosphere; but that time has passed.

Our next task is the production of milk is cold weather. From September to the middle of May, frost and cold work against us. By the latter part of September the frost cuts our pastures and renders our grasses unfit for the production of first-class milk. From September to snow-fall, our pasture grasses have to be supplemented with other foods; and usually by the middle of November we have to supply food artificially altogether until the middle of May.

Here is a heavy tax by way of supplying food to supplement our frost-bitten grasses, and of preparing hay and other feed and dealing it out to the other animals until grass comes again, in May. Sometimes, but rarely, in my State we may turn our cattle out to pasture by the first of May; and then again, we may have to hold them until the last part of June. So that, in an average year, we cannot count on pasture grass before the middle of May. From that time until frost comes again, in the fall, a period of only about four months, we usually feed nothing, leaving our cows entirely to the supply of the pastures. But we have leading dairymen who feed a little grain of some kind every day in the year that the cow gives milk, and declare that they find a profit in it, through the better quality and the steadier and prolonged flow of milk.

The farther north we get, the more this labor and expense of feeding and keeping our cows increases, the season of no frost being shorter, and that of winter feeding proportionally longer.

We are gradually working into winter dairying. In the older and wealthier sections some of the dairymen have provided themselves with warm barns and dairy appliances for winter operations. They will keep their cows through the winter in a warm stall, and costs but little more to feed for a flow of milk, if we count what is not returned in milk as the cost of keeping. Warm barns save fodder which would otherwise be consumed to keep up the temperature of the animal; and all the extra feed is turned into dairy products.

But if we turn out first-class dairy products, we have to feed somewhat differently, as well as more generously, in winter. We must observe a due balance between the carbonaceous or heat-producing foods and the nitrogenous or milk and muscle-producing foods. And we must do even more than this. We must make up a portion of our rations of some kind of succulent food, as to approximate pasture grass in composition. We can do this with roots of various kinds, the sugar-beet being best of all, or with corn meal, or by growing a portion of good enough fodder corn. The latter is getting quite popular with many, but its value depends largely upon the manner of growing, and on its perfect preservation—two considerations which cause ensilage maize to vary fully one-half in value. Cutting and steaming food is not generally practiced. It is too expensive for any but large and wealthy dairymen. But all can grow roots at about the same cost, and all of average means can put in a silo. But I will speak of this again.

By this hasty outline, you will see what we have to work against, and will already have made a comparison with the advantages which you have in your State. Our hot months, with which we used to have so much trouble, are July and August—two of the four months in which our pastures are supposed to supply all the wants of our cows. These months may not be quite so hot as with you, but they are often, during some portions of them, months of drought, during which we must either feed some silaging crop—such as fodder corn, rye, rye, rye, millet, or other crop grown for the purpose—or else suffer a serious shrinkage of the flow of milk, which can not be entirely regained, to say nothing of a deteriorated product.

Our consumption of dairy goods per capita is now 17.47 pounds against 18.06 pounds in 1850, a falling of .59 of a pound per capita, while the increased product per capita is 2.87 pounds.

But we must not forget that we have discontinued home consumption during the last 20 odd years, and that we formerly consumed practically all our dairy goods at home, when we had a larger proportion of cows to the population, and a greater number of cattle.

Therefore, I conclude that it will be a good many years before we shall increase our dairy products beyond the limits of normal home consumption, provided we make goods suited to the home palate, to say nothing of what we may find an outlet for in other countries.

But, by the way, I consider it a very bad policy to sell the products of our soil abroad. We thereby rob our country of valuable fertilizing materials and get the smallest recompence for our labor—raw materials always selling at the smallest profit, and more especially so when there is a surplus, as there must be when we have to send abroad.

However, we have meantime increased the yield per cow; from 65.77 pounds to 83.7 pounds—an increase of 18.60 pounds per cow; and we have increased the yield of dairy product per capita, from 18.06 pounds to 20.93 pounds—or, 2.87 pounds per capita. Though, in consequence of our folly of catering to a foreign market, we have reduced the consumption in a silo, we can learn from the feed tables which science has given to the world. I do not know where you can get them in cheaper and better form than in Prof. E. W. Stewart's new book on "Feeding Animals," which contains a vast fund of information, and will cost you two dollars.

In selecting your dairy stock, care should be taken to get such as is suited to dairy purposes. I will not attempt to say what breed is best—for all have their good points, and in all are good dairy cows. I judge the Shorthorn is popular here, because of its beef qualities. Some families of the Shorthorns are excellent milkers, giving both quantity and quality. They were originally great milkers, but have been bred so long almost exclusively for beef, that, as far as they have ceased to be reliable dairy animals.

The Friesians are great milkers—the greatest of all; but it is claimed that their milk is not rich in butter, though it gives a good yield of cheese. I know of Friesians that give milk rich in fat—above the average in richness; but I think their milk will average closely with the Ayrshire, while the fat globule of the Friesian milk is much finer in size.

The Jersey gives milk the richest in fat of all the breeds, but the quantity is small, as well as the cow. She ought to do well in your climate.

The Devons are not to be overlooked as a dairy stock. Their milk is nearly as rich as the Jerseys, and there is more of it. I give the Friesians and Devons the first rank as general purpose cows. There is a fair share of beef in both, but more in the Friesian. It is poor polly, however, to keep a poor dairy cow for years because in the end she will sell well for beef. It is holding beef at too high a cost. Better keep a cow, worth little for beef, that will give \$50 to \$75 a year in dairy product, than to keep a beef animal that yields only \$30 a year, because in the end she will sell for a few more dollars. Beef should be turned off as soon as it is ready for market. A good dairy cow will keep as a profit as long as her digestive organs remain perfect and healthy.

Whatever breed or breeds you select, be sure that they are adapted to your line of dairying. Don't put a butter cow to cheese-making, nor a cheese cow to butter-making—for in both cases there will be loss.

Again, in breeding, always breed from a pure-blood male, and the best you can get. By this means, you will not only keep up the quality of your herd, but in time have a practically pure-blooded one; and if you are careful in selecting both your bull and the calves you raise—always supposing that you feed and

shelter properly—you will be pretty sure to improve your herd. I have known of herds brought up in this way from a yield of 100 and 150 pounds of butter per cow annually, to 200 and 300 pounds. Of course, the field of cheese can be correspondingly increased. I do not consider a cow really profitable if she does not turn out 5,000 pounds of milk a year, of good quality.

Good water is essential in the dairy, but a comparatively small quantity will answer the purpose. Whatever goes into the dairy product must be free from deleterious substances, and the cows must have good water to drink. If you have no springs and streams that will furnish a supply of good water, wells and windmills, I judge, will supply the deficiency. If these fail, prepare a cistern for rainwater, with a filter to it. If kept clean, this will furnish excellent soft water for drinking purposes and for use in the dairy.

In conclusion, permit me to say that I think there is every encouragement for going into dairying in Missouri. It is one of the grandest States in the Union, and its resources are far from half developed as yet. I predict that it will one day equal if it does not lead any dairy State in the Union.

Site Building and Ensilage.

Upon request of Mr. Shepherd, Secretary of the "Mississippi Valley Dairy and Creamery Association," I will relate those in need of such information:

"Will say to begin with that I never saw a silo until I built mine; never saw a concrete wall put up until I went at it, and have never seen ensilage until I opened my silo. I have made many mistakes and will relate them so that they may be avoided by others. 1. The roof of my silo leaked, and whenever the water got in it rotted. 2. I did not have weight enough, should have at least 150 lbs. to the sq. ft. of surface. 3. The walls of my silo were not as smooth as they should have been.

The silo was built on a steep side hill, so as to have good drainage and be more convenient in filling, as well as feeding my cows, have the cow stable at the foot of the hill only a little above the bottom of the silo.

I commenced by building a shed 32 ft. long by 14 ft. wide early in the spring, and worked rainy days and other times when not occupied with farm work, thus lessening the cost very materially; inside this shed I made an excavation 24 feet long by 12 feet wide and 10 feet deep. I then took a scathing 12 feet long, 2x6 inches, set one end in the ground 14 inches from the bank, with edge of scathing to the bank, cut off to get a perpendicular, then set for a silo.

I have not erred in my estimate, all you have to do, is to provide yourselves with the best dairy stock, select, breed and rear from your best animals, always feeding liberal and properly balanced rations, to succeed at least as well as any other State in the Union. You must build and provide appliances with the view of controlling temperatures, not only securing an even temperature, but just such a degree as you want. This is all you can do, less trouble and expense.

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